

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (LIABILITIES).

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 21 February 1905;—for,

"RETURN showing the TOTAL AMOUNT of the OUTSTANDING BALANCES
of the LOANS of LOCAL AUTHORITIES in England and Wales, Scotland,
and Ireland, respectively, at the close of the Financial Years 1873-4,
1883-4, 1893-4, and 1903-4, with the Totals for the three Countries
on those dates."

Home Office,
7 August, 1905.]

THOMAS COCHRANE.

(*Mr. Gibson Bowles.*)



Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
7 August 1905.

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RETURN showing the Total Amount of the Outstanding Balances of the Loans of Local Authorities in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, respectively, at the close of the Financial Years 1873-4, 1883-4, 1893-4, and 1903-4.

ENGLAND AND WALES¹

Class of Local Authority ² (1)	1873-4 (2)	1883-4 (3)	1893-4 (4)	1903-4 (5)
Total amount of the outstanding balances of the loans of—				
1. Town councils (including Rural Districts, &c., see No. 10)	£ 0,000,000,000	£ 0,000,000,000	£ 0,000,000,000	£ 0,000,000,000
2. Urban sanitary authorities and urban districts (including suburban), &c., see No. 10	1,426,071,000	15,711,072	15,800,000	15,800,000
3. Corporations and local Government Councils of the City of London (3)	—	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
4. Districts of rural sanitary authorities represented by district councils	—	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
5. County authorities represented under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1888	—	1,000,000	1,000,000	—
6. Metropolitan Board of Works represented under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1889 (4)	—	1,000,000	—	—
7. London County Council	—	—	—	—
8. Other county councils, joint-boards of such councils, and the Lancashire County Board	—	—	—	—
9. School boards	—	—	—	—
10. Poor law authorities (including the Metropolitan Asylum Board, see No. 11)	—	—	—	—
11. Management of the Metropolitan Asylum Board	—	—	—	—
12. Rural sanitary authorities and rural district councils	—	—	—	—
13. Harbour, port, and dock authorities	—	—	—	—
14. Other local authorities	—	—	—	—
Total for all local authorities (England and Wales)	£ 0,000,000	£ 0,000,000	£ 0,000,000	£ 0,000,000
Total amount owing to the result of setting aside and other similar funds applicable to the repayment of the portion of the above-mentioned balances repayable by means of such funds	£ 0,000,000	£ 0,000,000	£ 0,000,000	£ 0,000,000

¹ The information in the foregoing statement was compiled from the Returns of the Local Authority Debts for England and Wales relating to the years ended 1873-4 and 1883-4 given in Appendix No. 100, Part I, 1873-4, No. 100-177, Return B, 1883-4, and the particulars contained in the Report of these Returns also given in Part I. The financial year to which the figures relate is the financial year ending 31st March, 1874, 1884, 1894, and 1904 respectively. The financial year to which the figures for 1873-4 and 1883-4 relate is the financial year ending 31st March, 1873, 1883, 1893, and 1903 respectively.

² These returns do not include the debts of the Local Government Board of England and the Local Government Board of Wales, and therefore do not include local authorities (i.e., towns or parishes) which have been incorporated into the Local Government Board of the United Kingdom by virtue of the Local Government Act, 1888.

See Table 2, p. 11, in the Statistical Abstract, or the part of the Local Government Act, 1888, dealing with the Local Government Board of the United Kingdom, for a description of the Local Government Board of the United Kingdom.

See Part 1, Chapter II, in the Statistical Abstract, or the Local Government Act, 1888, dealing with the Local Government Board of the United Kingdom, for a description of the Local Government Board of the United Kingdom.

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S. H. PROVSE,

Secretary to the Local Government Board.

RETURNS showing the TOTAL AMOUNT of the OUTSTANDING BALANCES—cont.

SCOTLAND.^a

Class of Local Authority. (1)	1873-4. (2)	1888-9. (3)	1893-4. (4)	1898-9. (5)
Parochial boards (superseded by parish councils under the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1894) :—		£	£	£
Loans under Public Health Acts	365,047	††—		—
Other loans	473,870	£5376,265		—
Parish councils	—	—		£5786,201
School boards	—	2,584,109	3,810,264	6,474,225
Harbours for ecclesiastical purposes	26,213	11,148		9,791
County authorities (superseded by county councils under the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1894) :—				
Commissioners of supply	477,372	—		—
County road trusts	‡27,490	—		—
County councils	—	††891,009		3,295,590
District library boards	—	£5438,659		£51,691,873
Burgh authorities	—	£10,348,890	£21,797,193	58,032,946
District fishery boards	—	125	—	4,297
Harbour and port authorities	8,081,026	£9,564,484	**11,120,546	
Total	—	£21,884,092	36,889,622	59,314,568

^a Compiled from the Memoranda to the Local Taxation Returns for Scotland relating to the years 1894-5, 1898-9 and 1903-4. The figures for 1898-9 are exclusive of the amounts due by one local authority to another.

↑ The information for 1873-4 is not available and cannot now be ascertained.

† The figures for 1888-9 relating to county authorities, to burgh authorities and to the total debt, are incomplete, the debt shown being less than the actual indebtedness because—

(1) Loans contracted on the security of the common road of burghs, and not forming a charge upon the rates, had not been included in the Local Taxation Returns made by some burgh officials; and

(2) The old templets trusts and ancient labour road trusts were merged in the new county road bonds under the Roads and Bridges Act, 1875, and the debts were released or written off. In a number of cases a valuation had not been arrived at in 1884, and the total indebtedness of the county roads and bridges trusts for that year was not inserted in the Local Taxation Returns, nor, if given, it would have been altogether meaningful for any purpose of comparison. The first year in which the total indebtedness of the new bonds is given is 1888-9, when the amount so entered is £90,972.

†† In 1898-9 a readjustment of the debts of parochial boards and county councils was made in consequence of the transfer to the latter bodies under the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1889, of the administration under the Public Health Acts formerly carried out by parochial boards. The amount of debt transferred from parochial boards to county councils was over £60,000.

‡‡ Parochials as to the debt, &c., of district library boards were included for the first time in the Local Taxation returns for 1898-9. The amount of district library board debt for 1888-9 has not been ascertained.

§§ County parochial asylum became a district asylum in 1898-9, and the asylum debt was therefore transferred to district library boards. The amount of such asylum debt in 1898-9 was £20,462, and in 1888-9 was £32,317.

|| Includes £679,085, the value of securities in 1898-9, the value for 1888-9 not having been ascertained.

** In addition, interest remaining unpaid amounted to £74,774.

†† £21,581.

G. FALCONAR-STEWART,
Secretary,
Local Government Board for Scotland.

IRELAND.

Classes of Local Authorities. (1.)	1873-4. (2.)	1883-4. (3.)	1893-4. (4.)	1903-4. (5.)
	£	£	£	£
Counties	564,778	603,427	326,074	285,836
Lunatic asylum districts*	-	-	-	1,387,823
Towns	1,810,765	2,905,819	3,871,742	7,015,275
Water Commissioners' districts†	-	455,918	691,302	1,737,548
Joint Drainage board districts‡	-	99,000	91,843	153,812
Joint Rural board districts‡	-	1,000	1,450	11,006
Unions	25,568	261,873	1,560,409	272,678
Rural districts§	-	-	-	2,418,008
Harbours	1,172,734	1,917,797	2,474,194	2,808,375
Total Ireland	8,074,845	6,281,834	8,027,014	16,008,811

* For the first three years given in the table the loans for lunatic asylum districts are included in the indebtedness of counties, and those of rural districts in that of unions.

† No information available for the first year in this case.

‡ These boards were not in existence in 1873-4.

A. R. BARLAS,
Assistant Secretary.

Local Government Board,
Dublin, 30th May 1905.

SUMMARY.

—	1873-4. (2.)	1883-4. (3.)	1893-4. (4.)	1903-4. (5.)
—	£	£	£	£
England and Wales	84,194,836	164,879,947	224,158,370	393,908,138
Scotland	-	(Figures not available.)	21,884,092	36,889,622
Ireland	-	3,074,845	6,281,834	8,027,014
Grand Total for United Kingdom	— } £ —	192,995,878	270,075,006	460,231,417